Telecom Policy

1. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the draft telecom policy has since been cleared by Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when it is likely to be announced by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The draft Telecom Policy has not yet been cleared by the Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Waiting List of Telephones in Madhya Pradesh

2. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the earliest date on the waiting list in the general category, exchange-wise and District-wise in Madhya Pradesh telecom circle during 1993-94 and 1994-95 till date;

(b) whether the Madhya Pradesh telecom circle is planning to reduce the waiting list period to two years in each district and exchange on priority basis; and

(c) if so, the details of schemes contemplated in this regard?

THE MINISTEY OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Information is under compilation and will be placed on the table of Rajya Sabha.

(b) and (c) 8th Five year Plan of department of Telecommunication envisage waiting list period not to exceed two years in large Telephone systems and Telephone practically on demand in rural/Tribal areas. During 8th Five year plan it is proposed to add around 4 lakh lines of net switching capacity in Madhya Pradesh to meet the above objectives.

Racket in Subsidised International Calls

3. SHRI G. G. SWELL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Governments attention has been drawn to the newsitem which appeared in the Hindustan Times of January 27 that six persons including MTNL employees, were hauled up for operating a racket in subsidised international calls;

(b) if so, whether the report is correct;

(c) whether the racket is widespread;

(d) the estimated loss to the Government exchequer; and

(e) whether Government have also received complaints of false inflated bills and illegal wiring of private telephones to other places from numerous consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STASTE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. On the basis of a complaint lodged by MTNL Vigilance Branch with the CBI, raids were conducted on 25.01.1994 by the CBI team assited by the MTNL vigilance team. Four employees (three working under Faridabad Telephones and one who worked earlier under MTNL but now transferred out of Delhi) were arrested.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A few such rackets have been investigated by the MTNL vigilance Branch and have been sucessfully busted with the help of the CBI/Police.

(d) It is not possible to estimate the loss as the period of operation is not known.

(c) Yes, Sir. A few complaints of excess bills and diversion of telephones

have been received from time to time. All such complaints have been investigated and action taken as per rules.

Filling up of SC/ST Quota in ITI

4. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that promotioins are not being given to the Scheduled Caste empolyees in the Indian Telephone Industries Limited (I.T.I.) Bangalore according to the roster system;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the cadre-wise and category-wise strength of the employees in the I.T.I.;

(d) what is the backlog of the vacancies reserved for SCs and STs which have not been filled up during the last three years and the reasons therefor; and

(e) what action is now proposed to be taken to fill up all these vacancies as per Constitutional provisions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c)

Group	Total Strength	SCs	STs
A	2526	207	19
B	3547	283	47
C	21718	4292	107
D	546	114	06
Sweepers /Cleaners	424	299	02

(d) There is no backlog of vacancies reserved for SC/STs in promotions. However, the backlog vacancies for SC/STs against recruitment quota during the last three years for which special advertisements have been released are as under:—

Year	Group	SC	ST
1991	A	11	21
	B	6	36
	C	162	36
	D	9	1
1992	A	5	16
	B	5	11
	C	87	14
	D	—	—
1993	A	2	1
	B	5	4
	C	87	14
	D	—	—

(e) To fill up the backlog of vacancies special recruitment drive has been launched by release of special advertisements. Action to process the applications and select the candidates is under progress. In respect of backlog of vacancies relating to Mankapur Unit (85 posts for SCs and 14 posts for STs in Group 'C'), the filling up of these posts has been kept in abeyance on account of Stay order from Hon'ble High Court of Allahabad. The Court Case is being followed to get the stay vacated.

शोलापुर और रत्नगिरि में रेडियो टेलीफोन सुविधा

5. **श्री सुशील कुमार संभाजीराव शिन्दे**: क्या **संचार** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) शोलापुर और रत्नगिरि जिलों में कितने रेडियो टेलीफोन स्टेशन कार्य कर रहे हैं;

(ख) क्या सरकार इन रेडियो टेलीफोन स्टेशनों को नजदीक के एस०टी०डी० रेडियो स्टेशन के अन्तर्गत लाने के बारे में विचार कर रही है जिससे कि दूरदराज के टेलीफोन उपभोक्ताओं को भी एस०टी०डी० की सुविधा मिल सके;

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और